

For half a century today, Hollis Biddle has been involved in making the Waco Tribune-Herald a valuable daily record of area accomplishments. And, for half a century today, Hollis Biddle has been working to make Waco a better community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring and celebrating Hollis Biddle's fifty years of service to his employer and to the people of Central Texas.

INABILITY OF CONGRESS TO CONDUCT ITS REGULAR BUSINESS

HON. MAX SANDLIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 15, 2002

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the House of Representatives passed yet another continuing resolution to keep the federal government running through October 18, 2002. Once again, Congress was forced to pass a continuing resolution funding the federal government because this body has failed to do its most basic work.

Instead, the majority party has decided to abrogate our constitutional responsibilities and go home and leave the people's business unfinished. I voted against this resolution because we need to be here working and solving the vast economic problems facing this country. I supported a continuing resolution that would have funded the federal government for one additional day. This would have forced us to remain here and address the critical issues facing our nation. Our domestic problems are not insurmountable. I will not accept the fact that this Republican-controlled Congress cannot simultaneously address national security needs while also addressing pressing domestic problems. When united in action, we can solve the problems facing everyday citizens.

In the course of the last two weeks, the stock market has plummeted to a five-year low, another 417,000 Americans filed unemployment claims at the end of last month, and consumer confidence fell to a nine year low. In addition to the hundreds of thousands on new unemployment claims, hundreds of thousands of out-of-work Americans have or will soon exhaust their unemployment compensation. The Republican majority has not brought any legislation to the floor to extend unemployment insurance for those who desperately need these benefits. Because the majority has failed to do its job, countless individuals will not be able to feed their families, seek new employment, or pay their upcoming winter heating bills.

In addition to not addressing legislation to assist unemployed workers, the House has failed to fund important initiatives in education, healthcare, and veterans—leaving society's most vulnerable members at risk. The lack of action means schools cannot plan for next year, hospitals wonder if they will have funds to remain open, seniors will go without a comprehensive prescription drug plan, and veterans will continue to see unacceptably long waits for access to care.

By ignoring the situation, the majority pretends that this Administration's failed economic policies have not had devastating consequences for average Americans. This Congress just has addressed the most compelling

national security issue facing the nation. It is time that we face the economic crisis facing America—rising unemployment, increasing job insecurity, growing budget deficits, and the lack of affordable health care.

By postponing action on passing the remaining eleven appropriations bills, the majority undermines the ability of the government to carry out its basic missions. By adopting continuing resolution after continuing resolution, we undermine our law enforcement agencies to combat terrorism, prevent the Immigration and Naturalization Service from increasing inspections and patrols, threaten efforts to improve homeland security, prevent new grants to first responders, weaken our ability to respond to bio-terrorism, provide basic services to our veterans, increase enforcement of our securities law to catch corporate misdeeds, and force state and local governments from making critical public infrastructure investment.

Because the majority has failed to its job, average Americans pay the price of our inaction. Republican economic policies have been bad for this country—ignoring those policies will not make them better. Congress' inaction touches every part of our daily lives. Yet, Congress will take another week off—leaving millions of Americans without hope that we will address the problems they face every day. It is for this reason that I in good conscience could not support another weeklong continuing resolution.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING FRANKIE LEE CARNES

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 15, 2002

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, Whereas, Frankie Lee Carnes is celebrating her 60th Birthday today October 8, 2002; and

Whereas, Frankie Lee Carnes is a member of First Christian Church; and

Whereas, Frankie Lee Carnes has six children and nine grandchildren;

Whereas, Frankie Lee Carnes must be commended for her service to the community serving as Chair of the Belmont County Election Board and actively participating in the Miracle of Life Group, and the Girl Scouts; and

Therefore, I join with the residents of St. Clairsville and the entire 18th Congressional District in congratulating Frankie Lee Carnes as she celebrates her 60th Birthday.

HONORING KAREN OSTDIEK

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 15, 2002

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding teacher who has exemplified the ideal of assuring that "No Child is Left Behind." Karen Ostdiek, a second grade teacher at St. Anthony's school in Fresno, California, went above and beyond the call of duty for Hunter Jameson, a student in her class, when he was diagnosed with cancer in early September 2001.

Hunter's parents, Mike and Catherine Jameson, and St. Anthony's principal, Shawn

Carey, credit Ms. Ostdiek with keeping Hunter up to date with his work even though he was out of the classroom for the majority of the school year. Thanks to Karen's extra effort and commitment to her students, Hunter will be able to go on to third grade in the fall.

Karen made sure Hunter was included in all classroom activities, posting his work in the classroom alongside the other students' and delivering him personal pizzas when the class earned a party. Hunter was able to return to school on May 6 and was warmly greeted by his fellow second-graders in Ms. Ostdiek's class. Karen was awarded an Angel on Earth award, for her work with Hunter, at a teacher appreciation luncheon. The praise is well deserved, although she does not see that she has done anything special, just her job. Her humility only serves to underline why Karen is so deserving of the appreciation and honor she has received.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Karen Ostdiek for her dedication to the education of our young people and her commitment to excellence. I invite my colleagues to join me in thanking Karen for her outstanding service and compassionate response to Hunter Jameson and his family.

H.R. 5400

SPEECH OF

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2002

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the unanimous consent request to pass H.R. 5400, a bill authored by my friend and colleague from Nebraska, the chairman of the Subcommittee on International Monetary Policy, Congressman DOUG BEREUTER. This legislation is a well-crafted, thoughtful and bipartisan bill that is certainly worthy of passage by unanimous consent.

This legislation will help the North American Development (NAD) Bank to accomplish its stated goal of improving the potable water supply, wastewater treatment and municipal solid waste management services within America's Mexico border region more efficiently. Addressing the problem of an inadequate water supply along our nation's southern border is a laudable goal, and one that is certainly worthy of the support of every member of Congress.

I would also like to acknowledge my gratitude to Chairman BEREUTER for allowing me to include in this legislation an amendment that recognizes the particular difficulty that southern California has in meeting its potable water needs, and directs the NAD Bank to support:

(1) The development of qualified water conservation projects in southern California and other eligible areas in the four United States border States, including the conjunctive use and storage of surface and ground water, delivery system conservation, the re-regulation of reservoirs, improved irrigation practices, wastewater reclamation, regional water management modeling, operational and optimization studies to improve water conservation, and cross-border water exchanges consistent with treaties; and,

(2) New water supply research and projects along the Mexico border in southern California